

SECRET*Intelligence*
13. WH & NSC
*7 matters*DCI/IC 74-064
May 13, 1974

X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: []

SUBJECT : OPRED: Th [] Memorandum of
May 8, and the IC Role 25X

X1 1. [] analysis of the situation is a good one, and generally concur in the recommendations contained in paragraph 11. (We do not think semi-annual CIA reporting is all that onerous, however.)

2. But going beyond that, the IC Staff should assert itself as coordinator for the DCI, furnishing the so-called OPRED group (or the staff of the Undersecretaries' Committee) with community judgments relating to intelligence positions overseas. In reaching such evaluations, DDO, INR, DIA, etc. should be consulted in their respective capacities as participants in the community, keeping clearly in everybody's mind that the IC Staff has no professional axes of its own to grind in this process.

X1 3. We need to consider the amount of resources required to do such a job. If we were to go into detail in screening every change, it would be burdensome and amount to undertaking a staff study of each location individually. To avoid this, I would adopt the same kind of system [] advocates: general sanction of shifts within existing ceilings, provided local authorities concur. A real case study should be made only when opening or closing a significant operation, or when a change in ceiling for a given agency seems unavoidable.

4. This approach implicitly supports the idea that reductions in numbers are to be achieved primarily by calling on an agency to pare down, and allowing it to arrive at its own decisions as to how and where. Anything having a major impact on intelligence would surface in substantive discussions outside the purely personnel channel anyway.

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X1 5. The point [] makes in paragraph 7 is a key one -- there is a need for comprehensive figures, and if the present OPRED staff does not keep them, someone else will or should. We should support retention of the general function in State for management purposes. We expect shortly to obtain a comprehensive set of figures on the intelligence slice of the pie, and through continuing liaison with the OPRED staff would plan to keep our set of data as current as possible.

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Att.:

O/Compt. Memo dtd 8 May 74

DCI/IC:RHM:ibm

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